

allegedly being anticipated by Southwest Airlines web page. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 20-22, and 25 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,948,040 ("DeLorme et al."). Claim 4 is objected to but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Although a Reply was filed on October 16, 2002 to respond to the Office Action, the proposed amendments in that Reply were not entered, as indicated in the Advisory Action dated November 7, 2002. Accordingly, this Reply is being filed together with a request for continued examination.

In this Reply, without conceding to every ground of rejection in the Office Action dated July 16, 2002, independent Claims 1 and 20 are amended to include the allowable features claimed in Claim 4. Claim 21 is being canceled since the elements claimed in Claim 21 are now included in its base Claim 20. In addition, Claim 4 is rewritten in independent form and includes all the elements of its base and intervening Claims 1, 2, and 3. Claim 4, accordingly, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Since Claims 2-3, 5-19 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 22 and 25 depend from Claim 20, it is submitted that these dependent claims are also patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims according to 37 C.F.R. §1.121. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made." If the Examiner has any questions regarding this communication or feels that an

interview would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being more prominent.

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**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claims 1, 4 and 20 as follows, and cancel Claim 21 without prejudice.

1. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a service for a traveler to acquire items at the traveler's destination comprising the steps of:

- receiving a request from a traveler for obtaining at least one item at the traveler's destination location;
- selecting by the traveler a delivery location, which is associated with the destination location, to which the at least one item will be delivered;
- arranging for the at least one item to be supplied;
- arranging for the at least one supplied item to be delivered to the selected delivery location; [and
- conducting a transaction with the traveler for the traveler to obtain the at least one item]
- for each item, transacting with a selected supplier to supply the item;
- for each item, transacting with a selected shipper to ship the item; and
- transacting with the traveler based on results of the transactions transacted with each selected supplier and each selected shipper.

4. (Twice Amended) [The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of conducting a transaction with the traveler further comprises:]

A method for providing a service for a traveler to acquire items at the traveler's destination comprising the steps of:

- receiving a request from a traveler for obtaining at least one item at the traveler's destination location;
- selecting by the traveler a delivery location, which is associated with the destination location, to which the at least one item will be delivered;
- accessing at least one supplier of the requested item, each supplier having a

location and having at least one item available with availability of the item and the location of the supplier relative to the selected delivery location;

arranging for the selected supplier to supply the item;

accessing at least one shipper, each shipper designating at least one possible source location from where to ship an item and at least one possible target destination for where to ship an item;

selecting a shipper that designates the location of the selected supplier supplying the item as the possible source location and the selected delivery location as the possible target destination;

arranging for the selected shipper to ship the item from the supplier to the selected delivery location;

for each item, transacting with the selected supplier to supply the item;

for each item, transacting with the selected shipper to ship the item; and

transacting with the traveler based on results of the transaction transacted with each selected supplier and each selected shipper.

20. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a service for a traveler to acquire at least one item at the traveler's destination comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from a traveler for obtaining at least one item at the traveler's destination location;

selecting by the traveler a delivery location, which is associated with the destination location, to where the at least one item will be delivered;

providing the traveler with an option to one of rent and purchase the at least one item;

arranging for the at least one item to be supplied;

arranging for delivery of the at least one item to the selected delivery location;

[and

conducting a transaction with the traveler for the traveler to obtain the at least one item]

for each item, transacting with a selected supplier to supply the item;

for each item, transacting with a selected shipper to ship the item; and  
transacting with the traveler based on results of the transactions transacted with  
each selected supplier and each selected shipper.